

## EXHIBIT 3

Ser. No.: 10/005,728

42390P5943C

[Email this Article](#)  [Printer-Friendly](#) [Subscribe to SQL Server Magazine RSS feed](#)

[September 3, 1999]

## Do I really need 166Mhz Pentium processors to run SQL Server 7.0?

**Neil Pike**  
InstantDoc #14153  
John Savill's FAQ for Windows

**A. No.** But you DO need a 100% PENTIUM compatible chip - which rules out some Cyrix and IBM processors. The only way around this is for the chip vendor to offer a micro-code upgrade. (Some non-Intel chips say they are pentiums, but in fact only implement the 486 chip-set).

The following quote is from Cyrix - "Recently an issue with SQL Server 7.0 has been discovered with the non-MMX Media GX and the 6x86 processors. A fix for this issue can be obtained from Cyrix technical support at: [tech\\_support@cyrix.com](mailto:tech_support@cyrix.com)"

The actual speed of the processor doesn't matter as long as it runs the full pentium instruction set - it needs to support CMPXCHG8B (Compare and Exchange 8 bytes) and RDTSC (Read Time-Stamp counter) instructions. Microsoft have made this a requirement because it is the minimum spec machine that they have developed/tested with - which is ok if you get most of your equipment donated/loaned/replaced by hardware companies free of charge, but this isn't the case with most businesses!

As long as the server previously ran SQL 6.5 (and is 100% PENTIUM compatible) you should find that it will run SQL 7.0 and will offer significant performance improvements, so don't upgrade hardware for the sake of it.

The following quote is from Microsoft Product Support Services :-

GET GREAT ARTICLES LIKE THIS ONE EVERY MONTH!  
**SUBSCRIBE TO**  
**WINDOWS IT PRO**  
**GET 2 FREE BONUS ISSUES**   
**CLICK HERE**

### Top 20 Articles

- 1 [How can I uninstall the Microsoft Java Virtual Machine \(JVM\) from Windows XP?](#)
- 2 [Windows Tips & Tricks UPDATE--October 4, 2004](#)
- 3 [Application Problems in Windows XP SP2](#)
- 4 [What You Need to Know About Windows Update Services](#)
- 5 [Microsoft finally wins one: Lessig out](#)

[More Top Viewed Articles](#)

## Do I really need 166Mhz Pentium processors to run SQL Server 7.0?

Page 2 of 3



"When using SQL Server v7.0, Microsoft recommends a processor speed of 166Mhz or higher for server machines. Our extensive testing of the product has been done on machines of this calibre and we believe customers will get a better price performance with the product when used in this configuration. Microsoft will support SQL Server v7.0 when run on server machines with slower processors. However customers should recognise that if our findings are that major problems can be eliminated by using faster processors we will continue to recommend, and in some cases may require, compliance with this suggestion."

The reason for this caveat is that some of the decisions the optimiser makes on a 166Mhz pentium may not make so much sense on a 60Mhz pentium - i.e. the extra cpu time a 60Mhz part neeed may mean that a non-optimal plan had been chosen.

---

Friend  
Steven

---

## Post a Comment

If you don't have a username & password, please [register now](#). [Forgot your username/password?](#)

1 **Username:** (required):

4 **Your Comments:** (required):

2 **Password:** (required):

3 **Rate this article:**

less useful

more useful

1  2  3  4  5

**(SUBMIT)**

**Windows IT Pro Marketplace****Improve IT Efficiency.**

See who's saving time with Microsoft Windows Server System.

**Performance Tuning Help**

Hundreds of free SQL Server performance tuning tips &amp; articles.

**Featured Links****Exclusive October Subscription Offer**

Order SQL Server Magazine and get a FREE System Table Map Poster!

**The Windows IT Pro VIP Program**

Order today and get every Windows IT Pro article ever written!

**Need to renew your subscription?**

Click here to continue getting each new issue of SQL Server Magazine

**Free SQL Server Day Roadshow -- 10/26/04**

Join Itzik Ben-Gan, William Vaughn, and Gert Drapers in Brussels!

**Ads by Google****Free Patent Information**Litman Law - Near US Patent Office  
Toll-Free 1-800-4-Patent (472-8368)  
[www.litmanlaw.com](http://www.litmanlaw.com)**Do you have an Invention?**We can help you market your idea.  
Make your product a reality!  
<http://invent-tech.com>**Free Patent Information**Request a free info package on how  
we can help you with your patent.  
[www.inventionhome.com](http://www.inventionhome.com)**Patent Your Invention**"Patent Pending" in 3 Easy  
& Affordable, from LegalZoom  
[www.legalzoom.com](http://www.legalzoom.com)Our Other Websites: [CertTutor](#) | [Connected Home](#) | [JSI FAQ](#) | [IT Library/eBooks](#) | [SuperSite](#) | [Windows FAQ](#) | [WinInfo News](#)[Home](#) | [Subscribe / Register](#) | [About Us](#) | [Contact Us / Customer Service](#) | [Affiliates / Licensing](#) | [Press Room](#) |  
[Media Kit](#) | [RSS](#)Windows IT Pro is a Division of Penton Media Inc.  
Copyright © 2004 Penton Media, Inc., All rights reserved. [Legal](#) | [Privacy Policy](#)